

ZCZCEPQ704

DAM: 417-007346

INPUT CDSN: CRT661

BFN: HK190700

TDR: 191102Z AUG 86

TDT: 191102Z AUG 86

ROUTING= DPG, TPG

WIRE SVC= **UNASSIGNED**

COMMDIS=**UNASSIGNED**

RATUZYUW RUMJCSA0143 2310928-UUAA--RUTLAAA.

DE RUMJHK #1932 2310724

ZNR UUUA ZYN ZPD

R 190700Z AUG 86

FM FBIS HONG KONG

TO AIG 4581

RHMRATK/13AF CLARK AB RP//IN//

RUHQKBA/CG FIRST MAR BDE KANEDHE BAY HI

RHMRAAE/DOD SPEC REP OKINAWA JA

RAYWYB/JIO CANBERRA AS

RHMGA/AFOSI DIST 42 CLARK AB RP//CC//

RUJWKA/COMUSNAVPHIL SUBIC BAY RP

RUMVC/AMEMBASSY MANILA

XMT FBIS HONG KONG

ACCT FBHK-EWDK

BT

UNCLAS 4P

OPS 9-10
PHILIPPINES

COPY TO MOD, NEAD

SUBJ

REF HK483 ON PHILIPPINES COVERAGE

Philippines: NDF Declares Willingness to Attain peace

Hk190700

(unidentified city of origin) LIBERATION in English apr-may 86
p 2 (tentative)

((Editorial: "The question of peace can be solved now";
editorial includes drawing of philippine army soldier's arm
covered by mailed glove with caption "you can't shake hands with
a mailed fist"))

((Text)) The National Democratic Front wishes to reiterate its
willingness to explore all avenues which may lead to the cessation
of armed hostilities and the attainment of genuine peace in our
land. It has been consulting on this matter with concerned
Filipinos representing different interests, classes and sectors
of our society, aside from taking certain steps as would facilitate
the initiation of an actual dialog with representatives of the
Aquino government.

Two facts however stand out. First, the Aquino government has
not officially declared a ceasefire. And second, the Armed Forces
of the Philippines ((AFP)) have not eased, but rather escalated,
their offensive actions against the masses and the revolutionary

movement.

President Aquino talks about declaring a ceasefire at some time in the future. Individual AFP field commanders talk about actually having unilaterally declared a ceasefire in their areas of operation. General Ramos says there has been no ceasefire.

The Aquino government thus speaks with many voices. The reality is that since Mrs. Aquino assumed office, the AFP's military and paramilitary forces have not only been kept intact, but their ranks have been beefed up to conduct military operations. General Ramos himself partly confirmed this when he said that six combat battalions and 42 armored vehicles which used to be deployed in and around Metro Manila have been thrown into "counter-insurgency" operations.

This is further confirmed by reports we have been receiving from the field, including Kalinga-Apayao, Cagayan, Misamis Oriental, Ifugao, Nueva Vizcaya, Davao and the BICOL and Southern Tagalog regions. In these areas, AFP units and paramilitary forces have been perpetrating killings, torture, hamletting and food blockades, looting and burning, bombings and strafings, and tong collections at highway checkpoints.

On the other hand, the AFP high command to this day has not acted upon President Aquino's order (as reported in the press) to dismantle the notorious Civilian Home Defense Forces. No decisive move has been made against local warlords and their private armies. Neither has the AFP done anything to confiscate more than a token number of the thousands of high-powered firearms illegally held by Marcos loyalists and other reactionary forces.

No wonder that the "New AFP" continues to be rejected by the people. Mere words do not suffice to convince the masses that the

the right to the allegiance as the people's defenders.

From all indications, warmongering and antidemocratic interests here and abroad are systematically attempting to sabotage efforts that further the cause of peace. Their motive is to make President Aquino abandon her avowed objective of seeking reconciliation and peace based on justice, and to get her to commit herself firmly to fascist terror like the dictator Marcos.

Foremost among these saboteurs are the Enrile-ramos faction and US imperialism. they scheme and work in cahoots with one another. It is not mere coincidence that while the Enrile-Ramos military clique pursues its terrorism against the masses and the revolutionary movement, the Reagan administration has been prodding Mrs. Aquino to "modernize" the AFP and launch unrelenting "counter-insurgency" campaigns.

This early, these vested interests are determined to impose their will upon a government that is just starting to come to grips with the enormous problems left behind by the deposed regime. They are bent on shielding and preserving the remaining repressive structures of that regime which are basically intact and considerably strong. They want to make the people's armed movement a scapegoat that can always be blamed for the deterioration of economic and social conditions in the country. In this way, they conveniently evade their own responsibility for such a deterioration, which would undeniably enhance their chances of grabbing power for themselves and excluding the democratic forces from meaningful participation in the task of governing the nation.

The National Democratic Front earnestly calls upon the authorities concerned to immediately halt all oppressive and punitive actions by government military and paramilitary troops

patriotic officers and men of the AFP to dissociate themselves from those among them who would serve a master other than the Filipino people.

We firmly beleive that the question of peace can be solved. And it can begin to be solved even now.

(ENDALL) APR-MAY /PT 19/0740Z AUG

STAT

BT

#1932

NNNN